



**Texas Department of Insurance**  
**Division of Workers' Compensation**  
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48  
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 • Austin, Texas 78744-1609

## MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

### PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name and Address:  FORT DUNCAN MEDICAL CENTER 3255 W PIONEER PKWY ARLINGTON TX 76013-4620	MFDR Tracking #: M4-08-6260-01
	DWC Claim #:
	Injured Employee:
Respondent Name and Box #:  TPS JOINT SELF INS FUNDS Box #: 42	Date of Injury:
	Employer Name:
	Insurance Carrier #:

### PART II: REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY AND PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTATION

**Requestor's Position Summary:** "In our audit we found that this claim was not paid at a fair and reasonable amount for these outpatient services. As a common practice, we review the ER charges for at least a 75% line item reimbursement. We came to this conclusion as this is a standard practice with most carriers. Additionally, there was no reimbursement for CPT 90772 and payment of \$22.00 should be allowed for this charge."

**Principal Documentation:**

1. DWC 60 Package
2. Medical Bills
3. EOB
4. Medical Records
5. Total Amount Sought - \$263.27

### PART III: RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY AND PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTATION

**Respondent's Position Summary:** "The Respondent has developed and consistently applies a methodology to determine fair and reasonable reimbursement amount to ensure that similar procedures provided in similar circumstances receive similar reimbursement. Respondent paid a fair and reasonable rate for the above referenced services... In addition, other rates of reimbursement for the same service show a lower rate of reimbursement than that claimed by the Requestor."

**Principal Documentation:**

1. Response Package

### PART IV: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Date of Service	Denial Code	Disputed Service	Amount in Dispute	Amount Due
6/11/2007	W10	Emergency Room Visit	\$263.27	\$0.00
			<b>Total Due:</b>	\$0.00

### PART V: REVIEW OF SUMMARY, METHODOLOGY AND EXPLANATION

Texas Labor Code § 413.011(a-d), titled *Reimbursement Policies and Guidelines*, and Division rule at 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.1, titled *Medical Reimbursement*, effective May 2, 2006 set out the reimbursement guidelines.

This request for medical fee dispute resolution was received by the Division on June 9, 2008.

1. For the services involved in this dispute, the respondent reduced or denied payment with reason code:
  - W10 – No Maximum allowable defined by fee guideline. Reimbursement made based on insurance carrier fair and reasonable reimbursement.
2. This dispute relates to outpatient emergency services performed in a hospital setting with reimbursement subject to the provisions of Division rule at §134.401(a)(5), effective August 1, 1997, 22 TexReg 6264, which provide that such

services shall be reimbursed at a fair and reasonable rate until the issuance of a fee guideline addressing these specific services.

3. Division rule at 28 TAC §134.1, effective May 2, 2006, 31 TexReg 3561, requires that, in the absence of an applicable fee guideline, reimbursement for health care not provided through a workers' compensation health care network shall be made in accordance with subsection §134.1(d) which states that "Fair and reasonable reimbursement: (1) is consistent with the criteria of Labor Code §413.011; (2) ensures that similar procedures provided in similar circumstances receive similar reimbursement; and (3) is based on nationally recognized published studies, published Division medical dispute decisions, and values assigned for services involving similar work and resource commitments, if available."
4. Texas Labor Code §413.011(d) requires that fee guidelines must be fair and reasonable and designed to ensure the quality of medical care and to achieve effective medical cost control. The guidelines may not provide for payment of a fee in excess of the fee charged for similar treatment of an injured individual of an equivalent standard of living and paid by that individual or by someone acting on that individual's behalf. It further requires that the Division consider the increased security of payment afforded by the Act in establishing the fee guidelines.
5. Division rule at 28 TAC §133.307(c)(2)(B), effective May 25, 2008, 33 TexReg 3954, applicable to requests filed on or after May 25, 2008, requires that the request shall include "a copy of each explanation of benefits (EOB), in a paper explanation of benefits format, relevant to the fee dispute or, if no EOB was received, convincing documentation providing evidence of carrier receipt of the request for an EOB." Review of the submitted documentation finds that the requestor has not provided a copy of the EOB detailing the insurance carrier's response to the request for reconsideration. Nor has the requestor provided evidence of carrier receipt of the request for an EOB. The Division concludes that the requestor has not met the requirements of Division rule at 28 TAC §133.307(c)(2)(B).
6. Division rule at 28 TAC §133.307(c)(2)(F)(iii), effective May 25, 2008, 33 TexReg 3954, applicable to requests filed on or after May 25, 2008, requires that the request shall include "a position statement of the disputed issue(s) that shall include"... "how the Labor Code, Division rules, and fee guidelines impact the disputed fee issues." Review of the submitted documentation finds that the requestor has not discussed how the Labor Code, Division rules and fee guidelines impact the disputed fee issues. The Division concludes that the requestor has not met the requirements of Division rule at 28 TAC §133.307(c)(2)(F)(iii).
7. Division rule at 28 TAC §133.307(c)(2)(F)(iv), effective May 25, 2008, 33 TexReg 3954, applicable to requests filed on or after May 25, 2008, requires that the request shall include "a position statement of the disputed issue(s) that shall include"... "how the submitted documentation supports the requestor position for each disputed fee issue." Review of the submitted documentation finds that the requestor has not discussed how the submitted documentation supports the requestor position for each disputed fee issue. The Division concludes that the requestor has not met the requirements of Division rule at 28 TAC §133.307(c)(2)(F)(iv).
8. Division rule at 28 TAC §133.307(c)(2)(G), effective May 25, 2008, 33 TexReg 3954, applicable to requests filed on or after May 25, 2008, requires the requestor to provide "documentation that discusses, demonstrates, and justifies that the amount being sought is a fair and reasonable rate of reimbursement in accordance with §134.1 of this title (relating to Medical Reimbursement) when the dispute involves health care for which the Division has not established a maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR), as applicable." Review of the submitted documentation finds that:
  - The requestor's position statement asserts that "As a common practice, we review the ER charges for at least a 75% line item reimbursement. We came to this conclusion as this is a standard practice with most carriers. Additionally, there was no reimbursement for CPT 90772 and payment of \$22.00 should be allowed for this charge."
  - The requestor did not submit documentation to support that 75% line item reimbursement is a standard practice with most carriers.
  - The requestor did not submit documentation to support that payment of 75% line item reimbursement would result in a fair and reasonable rate of reimbursement for the services in dispute.
  - The Division has previously found that a reimbursement methodology based upon payment of a hospital's billed charges, or a percentage of billed charges, does not produce an acceptable payment amount. This methodology was considered and rejected by the Division in the *Acute Care Inpatient Hospital Fee Guideline* adoption preamble which states at 22 Texas Register 6276 (July 4, 1997) that:

"A discount from billed charges was another method of reimbursement which was considered. Again, this method was found unacceptable because it leaves the ultimate reimbursement in the control of the hospital, thus defeating the statutory objective of effective cost control and the statutory standard not to pay more than for similar treatment of an injured individual of an equivalent standard of living. It also provides no incentive to contain medical costs, would be administratively burdensome for the Commission and system participants, and would require additional Commission resources."
  - The requestor asks for payment of \$22.00 for CPT 90772, and submitted documentation to support that the Medicare allowable for this charge is \$17.60. However, the requestor did not explain or demonstrate that payment in the amount of 125% of the Medicare rate for CPT 90772 would result in a fair and reasonable reimbursement.

- CPT 90772 is defined as “Therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic injection (specify substance or drug); subcutaneous or intramuscular.” Review of the submitted medical records finds no documentation to support that this procedure was performed. Nor was any notation found in the medical records to specify what substance or drug was injected.
- The requestor did not discuss or explain how payment of the requested amount would ensure the quality of medical care, achieve effective medical cost control, provide for payment that is not in excess of a fee charged for similar treatment of an injured individual of an equivalent standard of living, consider the increased security of payment, or otherwise satisfy the requirements of Texas Labor Code §413.011(d) or Division rule at 28 TAC §134.1.
- The requestor did not discuss or support that the proposed methodology would ensure that similar procedures provided in similar circumstances receive similar reimbursement.
- The requestor did not submit nationally recognized published studies, published Division medical dispute decisions, or documentation of values assigned for services involving similar work and resource commitments to support the proposed methodology.

The request for additional reimbursement is not supported. Thorough review of the documentation submitted by the requestor finds that the requestor has not demonstrated or justified that payment of the amount sought would be a fair and reasonable rate of reimbursement for the services in dispute. Additional payment cannot be recommended.

9. The Division would like to emphasize that individual medical fee dispute outcomes rely upon the evidence presented by the requestor and respondent during dispute resolution, and the thorough review and consideration of that evidence. After thorough review and consideration of all the evidence presented by the parties to this dispute, it is determined that the submitted documentation does not support the reimbursement amount sought by the requestor. The Division concludes that this dispute was not filed in the form and manner prescribed under Division rules at 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(c)(2)(B), §133.307(c)(2)(F)(iii), §133.307(c)(2)(F)(iv) and §133.307(c)(2)(G). The Division further concludes that the requestor failed to support its position that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$0.00.

#### PART VI: GENERAL PAYMENT POLICIES/REFERENCES

Texas Labor Code § 413.011(a-d), § 413.031 and § 413.0311  
 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, §134.1  
 Texas Government Code, Chapter 2001, Subchapter G

#### PART VII: DIVISION DECISION

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is not entitled to additional reimbursement for the services involved in this dispute.

#### DECISION:

**Grayson Richardson**

**7/27/2010**

Authorized Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

Date

#### PART VIII: YOUR RIGHT TO REQUEST AN APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to request an appeal. A request for hearing must be in writing and it must be received by the DWC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **20** (twenty) days of your receipt of this decision. A request for hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceedings, Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers Compensation, P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas, 78744. **Please include a copy of the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision** together with other required information specified in Division rule at 28 TAC §148.3(c).

Under Texas Labor Code §413.0311, your appeal will be handled by a Division hearing under Title 28 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 142 Rules if the total amount sought does not exceed \$2,000. If the total amount sought exceeds \$2,000, a hearing will be conducted by the State Office of Administrative Hearings under Texas Labor Code §413.031.

**Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.**